*Mrs. T. Francis *(Women-Ernakulam):* I rise to support this motion. Tuberculosis disease is increasing day by day. My experience as doctor for the last 30 years or so treating the disease and in the early part of my practice I never used to find so many cases. Now it is on the increase, mostly in Mattancheri and Trichur. Of course of late that is when I say—last 5 years—I am seeing very many cases in Ernakulam than when it used to be before. Of course the cause of tuberculosis you know. Poverty is the cause of the disease and our climatic conditions. There is much humidity in the air and the disease requires a dry climate. The convenience that we have at present is very insufficient. There is a clinic at Trichur. That is quite insufficient to meet the needs of the tuberculosis patients of the State. The resisting power of the population is very low that they are not able to fight the tuberculosis pecile. Hence the disease on the increase. A tuberculosis institute in the State is very desirable. If the expert doctors in tuberculosis can find suitable place in the State, that is the most wanted thing here, and the Government without delay take advantage of it and do it without further delay. Meanwhile before that could be managed there are three institutions, one at Madanappilli another at Tambaram and a third at Perumtharai these institutions must be helped with funds where the middle class and poor class could go and get admission there. As the mover said it is very difficult for the middle class and the poor class to get admission. I mean the beds there are very few and the facilities for admission very little. To-day a patient of mine is at Coimbatore. She tried to get admission in the uberculosis institute and did not get. She with the help of doctor in the General Hospitel, Coimbatore got a place in the General Hospital there. That is against the rule. So I request the Government to take steps to open a tuberculosis institute in this State. Meanwhile help these three institutions at Madanappilli, Thambram and Perumtharai.

Mr. C. J. Mathew *(Joint Secretary to Government):* I have already informed the House that the question of opening a tuberculosis hospital in the State is engaging the attention of the Government. An expert who came down to examine the question went round with the Chief Medical Officer and they have tentatively selected a suitable site to establish a T. B. sanatorium in the State. Chief Medical Officer has been ordered to work out the details and submit a scheme for the consideration of the Government. I may assure the House that when the scheme is ready, the Government will give it their most sympathetic consideration. As regards contribution to the sanatorium at Madanappilli Government have been making regular payments all these years. This year they have paid Rs. 5,000. In other words, the full grant they asked for has been paid. Government are now also considering the question of appointing a T. B. Expert immediately to be put in charge of the T. B. clinic at Trichur.

Rao Sahib K. Ayyappan *(Ezhuvas-Kanayannur):* Is the investigation already over?

Mr. C. J. Mathew *(Joint Secretary to Government):* Not completely over.

Rao Sahib K. Ayyappan *(Ezhuvas-Kanayannur):* The details of the scheme already over?

Mr. C. J. Mathew *(Joint Secretary to Government):* The details are being worked out by the Chief Medical Officer.

Mrs. T. Francis *(Women's-Ernakulam):* May I know you are helping all these three institutions by funds?

Mr. C. J. Mathew *(Joint Secretary to Government):* Requests for financial help have been received only from Madanappilli sanatorium.

Mrs. T. Francis *(Women's-Ernakulam):* Can the Government take measures to see whether you could reserve a few seats in these sanatoriums?

Mr. C. J. Mathew *(Joint Secretary to Government):* The authorities of the Madanappilli sanatorium are vey generous in allotting beds to our patients. With regard to getting beds reserved in other institutions, Government will consider the question.

Mr. P. K. Dewer *(Nominated):* I do not want to press the motion.

Cut motion, by leave, withdrawn.

Demand put and carried.

27. 24-Medical—1-Medical Proper—1-Establishment—Temporary

Mr. C. J. Mathew *(Joint Secretary to Government):* I rise to move for an additional allotment of Rs. 1,715 under "24-Medical—1-Temporary Establishment". Since the last few years the number of beds in many of the medical institutions have been increased, but no proportionate increase in the staff, especially of menial service has been made in these institutions. The appointment of 20 menial servants on Rs. 10—½—16 and 1 compounder on Rs. 20—2—40 is necessary for the proper maintenance of these institutions. To cope with the increase of work

*Speech not corrected by the Hon'ble Member.

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in the Office of the Civil Surgeon, General Hospital, Ernakulam it is necessary to appoint an additional clerk on Rs. 25—40. For these appointments the above additional allotment is necessary. I request the same may be sanctioned.

CUT MOTION No. 3.

*Mr. P. K. Dewer *(Nominated)*: I rise to move a cut motion. My object in raising this cut is to raise a discussion with a view to impress upon the Government the necessity of revising the pay of the menials in the Medical Department. The amount asked is for the pay of menials who are going to be appointed and the pay fixed now is Rs. 10 with an annual increase of 8 annas rising to Rs. 16. You will find from this that it is 5 as. 4 ps. that a menial servant in hospital gets a day. We have to remember that these menials in the hospitals have to deal with the patients. When the menials find that it is very difficult for them to meet their daily expenses with the meagre pay that they get they will certainly tax the patients. The standard rate for meal fixed by the Government is 6 as. It will be clear from this that the pay they get is not sufficient for even one meal a day. I therefore impress upon the Government the necessity of raising the pay of the poor menials so that they will not be a burden on poor patients at least.

*Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri)*: I have great pleasure in supporting this cut motion, though the Government is now giving a munificient sum of 64 pies for these servants. We have certainly to see that these menials who are kept there to look to the primary wants of these aiding patients there are not converted into a sort of pests upon these patients. I am not blaming them. The cry of the stomach will force these men to it, when that policy indulged in by the Government which hesitate not pay Rs. 800 to a similarly formed human individual, that he happens to be a head of the department. When this policy followed by such a Government it becomes all the more reprehensible. The pay of the departmental head who ever — I do not dialete upon, whoever he be, of course it is implied,many things are implied— if it had been somewhere on this basis of Rs. 10 per day then there some justification for a proportionate low amount is being given to them. Even in that case where the Government becomes wise enough—wise enough I say to reduce the pay of their departmental heads to Rs. 300 per mensem. Again even in such a contingency, I am sure, this Government would be forced to do before long by the conserted action on the part of the Hon'ble representative of the poor people of the State, even in that case it ought to be Rs. 30 at least—one rupee per day—is the bearest minimum that ought to be given by a Government of the type of the Cochin Government to its humblest of humble servants. If the Government had not been wise enough to understand the justice of doing this, when tons of money are being spent upon those benches. Well what shall we call this Government! Will "Wooden" be a strong ephithet. We want the Cochin Government have some brains to think on behalf of those people for whom they exist, and administer the wants of whom that they are appointed by His Highness the Maharaja, whose motto is the well-being of all the subjects whether low or high; high born or low born. His Highness eye is always to see that His Highness' subjects fare happily in the State under such a Ruler. If the Government do not realise the justice of paying their humble servants, especially in the Medical Department living wages which may not be nothing less than one rupee per day. I think it is high time that that Government is up-rooted and pushed down in the nearest back-waters, and some immaginative Government be installed in their place. I think this sort of policy on the part of the Government will force representatives of the people to hasten that day, and I am sure that this House constituted as it is today will never hesitate to take step in that line. The question whether you will hasten the speed and improve yourself to come to the relief of the low paid men not only in the Medical Department but in other departments as well. That is the issue raised in that simple worded cut motion, that is the proposition, which will be pressed, I am sure, my Honble friend will not withdraw it as he did in the case of previous one. I entreat him not to withdraw it. To force the hands to do the bare justice for the most needed. Consider it in that light and please see that we are not forced to do things for which we normally are not willing to do it. When forced we shall hesitate to do so.

Mr. C. J. Mathew *(Joint Secretary to Government)*: Sir, the discussion has ultimately centred upon a general revision of pay for the menials in all the Departments. That is a very wide question.

Mr. Deputy President: That point does not raise here. If I understood the Hon'ble Member rightly he tried a sort of contrast between the two. So that the question does not arise here. We shall confine ourselves to the pay of the menials of Medical Department.

*Speech not corrected by the Hon'ble Member.

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Mr. C. J. Mathew *(Joint Secretary to Government):* Speaking for the Medical Department I wish to point out that the menials there are not worse off than the menials of other departments. Comparatively they are getting more pay. So they are in a better position than the menials in other departments. It is the policy of the Government to revise the grades of pay of the staff including menials of the Medical Department when normal conditions are restored.

Mr. P. K. Dewer *(Nominated):* I press this motion in the name of humanity. I am doing it because the Secretary has been pleased to say that these menials of the Medical Department are better off. We must also take into account the work they were asked to do and the hours of attendence. So I press the motion. I therefore appeal this house to support me in opposing this motion.

Cut motion put and carried.

Demand minus Re. 1. put and carried.

28. 24—Medical—1.—Medical Proper—1.—Dearness Allowance

29. 24—Medical—1.—Medical Proper—1.—Local allowance

Mr. C. J. Mathew *(Joint Secretary to Government):* Sir, I rise to move the next two additional allotments which relate to the same subject. Dearness allowance, Rs. 2,582 and 126 local allowance under the same head. I request the House kindly to sanction them.

Demands put and carried.

30. "Labour"

Mr. C. J. Mathw *(Joint Secretary to Government):* Sir, I rise to move an additional allotment of Rs. 9,888 under "Labour". Though Labour Legislation in the State has kept pace with similar Legislation in British India, there was till now no co-ordinated machinery to deal with Labour problems. It is also necessary that increased attention should be paid to problems connected with Labour. The Director of Industries and Commerce who was till recently functioning as Labour Commissioner, has sufficient work connected with his duties as Director of Industries and Commerce. Therefore the post of a full time Labour Commissioner has been created with effect from the 24th Chingam 1121. The total estimate of expenditure for the new Labour Department for 1121 under Establishments allowances and contingencies comes to Rs. 12,691 of which the expenditure under votable items comes to Rs. 9888. The above expenditure could not be anticipated when the current year's budget was framed; hence the necessity for an additional allotment of Rs. 9,888 under the Labour Department.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* Can I have from the Hon'ble Joint Secretary some information with regard to the Labour Department, its working, and how to propose to tackle the problem? I had sent a cut motion unfortunately it was disallowed. By way of information can I have it?

Mr. Deputy President : The Hon'ble Member wants some information regarding the Labour Department so that we may understand for what we are sanctioning this amount.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* We are in dark, Sir, please throw some light upon it.

Mr. Deputy President : What is the specific point of information the Hon'ble Member wants?

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* Nature of the working of the Labour Department.

Mr. P. K. Dewer *(Nominated):* May I know the duties of the Labour Commissioner have been defined?

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* Is it want of incapacity to give or unwillingness to give or the consequences of giving it out?

Mr. C. J. Mathew *(Joint Secretary to Government):* The Labour Department will administer Labour laws and also look into the welfare of the labourers employed in the various factories.

Mr. P. Govinda Menon *(Ernakulam):* Who are the Members of his establishment?

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